

## 03040205-070

(Black River)

### General Description

Watershed 03040205-070 is located in Sumter, Clarendon, and Lee Counties and consists primarily of the **Black River** and its tributaries from Church Branch to the Pocotaligo River. The watershed occupies 76,437 acres of the Upper Coastal Plain region of South Carolina. The predominant soil types consist of an association of the Lynchburg-Noboco-Bonneau-Johnston-Rains series. The erodibility of the soil (K) averages 0.16; the slope of the terrain averages 2%, with a range of 0-10%. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 27.6% scrub/shrub land, 26.1% agricultural land, 24.9% forested land, 19.0% forested wetland, 1.4% nonforested wetland, 0.9% water, and 0.1% urban land.

This section of the Black River accepts drainage from its upstream reaches together with Church Branch, the Rocky Bluff Swamp Watershed, and Long Branch. Further downstream, Mill Branch, Tearcoat Branch (Davis Branch, Pen Branch), and Breakfast Branch (Crow Bay) enter the river. The river flows through the Black River Swamp throughout the watershed. There are a few recreational ponds (totaling 73.9 acres) and 275.7 stream miles in this watershed. The Black River is classified FW\* (Dissolved oxygen not less than 4.0 mg/l and pH between 5.0 and 8.0) and the remaining streams in the watershed are classified FW.

### Water Quality

<u>Station #</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>
PD-116	S	FW*	BLACK RIVER AT S-14-40 E OF MANNING

**Black River (PD-116)** - Aquatic life uses are partially supported due to dissolved oxygen excursions, compounded by a significant decreasing trend in dissolved oxygen concentration. There is also a significant increasing trend in pH. This is a blackwater swamp system, characterized by naturally low dissolved oxygen concentrations; however, the decreasing trend in dissolved oxygen suggests that conditions are deteriorating. Recreational uses are fully supported; however, there is a significant increasing trend in fecal coliform bacteria concentration.

*A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes the Black River within this watershed (see advisory p.73).*

### Growth Potential

There is a low potential for growth in this watershed. Some growth may occur surrounding the interchanges of I-95 and the U.S. Hwy. 378 corridor. The remainder of the watershed is rural with agricultural and timberland uses.